

## Where in the World Is Mrs. Waffenschmidt? # 22

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Read the paragraph below. In that paragraph, everybody's favorite adventurer, Mrs. Waffenschmidt, offers clues about the place she is visiting today. Use those clues to help you figure out where in the world Mrs. Waffenschmidt is. Write your answer on the line at the bottom of the page.



I have on my scuba gear, and I'm about to take a dive to see the world's largest coral reef. This reef stretches about 1,250 miles in the Coral Sea. (That distance is about the same as the distance from New York City to Miami, Florida!) This amazing undersea "park" is home to 1,500 species of fish, 400 species of coral, and 500 species of seaweed. It is also home to the largest population of dugongs in the world. In case you don't know what a dugong is, its closest relative is the manatee. My diving buddy told me that this wonderful reef is said to be the only living thing that can be seen from outer space. The first European to see this reef was English explorer Captain James Cook. Cook happened to find the reef when his wooden ship, the *Endeavour*, ran aground on it in 1770. Sadly, this site is endangered by pollution, climate change, and humans who drop boat anchors on the fragile coral. Sunscreen lotions from tourists (I'm not wearing any today) and ship fuels are also endangering this wonderful place.

Can you name the place I am visiting? Where in the world is this place found?

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